The Cure for Discouragement

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THE CURE FOR DISCOURAGEMENT

1Kings 19:4But he,himself, went a day's journey into the wilderness, and sat down under a juniper tree, and he requested for himself that he might die.

INTRO.The fable of"the Devil's Wedge."
Announded retiring from business, big sale. Eve before many come to see what he had to sell
Chief tools: malice, envy, hatred, jelousy, sensuality, vanity.
One set apart and marked at a higher price. The D was asked why. "That is discouragement, the most useful weapon in all my aggregation of tools.It is wort h more than all the rest put together. I can pry open and get into a man's conscience withdisdouragement when nothing else prevails."
The devil still owns that tool and uses it freely! Some temporary situation arises, in which we lose our courage, and, if not curbed, how often discouranement leads to disasstrous results!

A young couple bot a home, a double house,and they lived in one part and rented the other. He had a good position, but soon lost it. Had work from time to time, no danger of losing home, but the wife got to worrying about their debts, One evening the climax was reached. Box of candy. Accusation and nerbous breakdown.

Let us, this morning, take the case of Elijah, and try to learn how we might save ourselves from our own discouragements,

I. Plainly Elijah was discouraged!
A despondent, dejected man! so different from the energetic man before the courst of Ahab ,the King.
Plainly a case of reaction.
The conflictt with the heathen priests. Eyes of nation upon him. Great strain. Reaction

We all, more or less suffer from reactions.
Prosperity followed by Hard times. Depression and despondency.
A heavy loss, a sad bereavement, sinks us to the very depths of despair.
Moments of great exaltation often followed by reaction ff. Transfiguration, afterwards the helpless disciples. Moses come down from Mount, people worshiping Golden Calf.

While in his mood of discouragement Elijah saw things far worse than they really were.

Because he had been forced to flee, that everything was wrong all over the country. He thot that he was the only faithful man left in all the land.

And so it is with us. When we grow discouraged, everythings seems to be at the worst.

II. The Result.

Tho the condition producing despondency may be but temporary, the results may be very disasterous.

Elijah ran away from duty.

His victory over priests but work begun. But there came the period of reaction that put fear into the heart of the prophet. When the queen threatened, Elijah fled!

Who has not, in his own way, made as sorry a flight from duty as did poor discouraged Elijah?

Elija's mood of despondency was displeasing to God. When even the sending of food failed to bring results, the searching question was put, "What doest thou here, Elijah?"

~~Brother and I caught doing something wrong,~~ Mother said, "What are you doing here?".

III. The Cure.

We cannot continue to live in the atmosphere of such despondency. It is worse for our minds than poisonous Gas is for the lungs. The question is, how can we come back to a healthy, normal state?

1. Elijah came back by seeing God again.

Discouragement makes us lose sight of God. Not that we do not believe thqt God exists, we are not athiests, no, but we we do not believe that he cares, and it is this form of unbelief that makes us so subject to our own weaknesses. But when we have God in our lives, we can stand in His strength, and somehow, our discouragements vanish and become powerless.

2. Elijah again recognized God's plans.

"Lord, not my will but thine be done!"

Much of our trouble comes because we do the things we selfishly want to do, rather than the things we know we ought to do.

3. Then, too, Elijah, demonstrated one of the best cures for despondency and discouragement-je went back to work!

After the earthquake- back to work and rebuilding

Let us seek for ~~~~~~ the cure of our fears and despair
A new sense of God
A new realization that we are on His side
A new understanding of God's plan for us,
Then, back to work, to duty, to happiness and contnetment.

Grief. By Angela Morgan

"Upon this trouble shall I whet my life
As 'twere a dulling knife;
Bade I my friend be brave?
I shall still braver be.
No man shall say of me,
'Others he saved, himself he cannot save.'
But swift and fair
As the primal word that smote the night-
'Let there be light!'
Courage shall leap from me, a gallant sword
to rout the enemy and all his horde,
Cleaving a kingly pathway thru despair."